

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, N.Y., FEBRUARY 18TH, 2016 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 18th day of February, 2016 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, *The Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and*

WHEREAS, *Robert L. Poczik graduated from Clarence Central High School, attended the State University of New York at Binghamton, and then spent a year and a half in India on a Fulbright Fellowship where he taught English at an Indian university, completed a research project on Mahatma Gandhi, and did volunteer work with Tibetan refugees; and*

WHEREAS, *Robert L. Poczik completed his master's degree in education from Syracuse University and returned to Asia on a Ford Foundation Fellowship on assignment to the Ministry of Education in Sri Lanka; and*

WHEREAS, *Robert L. Poczik volunteered again with Tibetan refugees in India, creating an English-Tibetan Children's Dictionary, which has been reprinted eleven times and has never been out of print since it was first published forty years ago that has helped several young Tibetans to learn English and where this work has earned Robert several private audiences with the Dalai Lama; and*

WHEREAS, *upon returning to the U.S., Robert L. Poczik began a twenty-six year career in the New York State Education Department in Albany, where he was the lead state administrator of programs for refugees and immigrants, adult literacy, job training, and career and technical education; and*

WHEREAS, *Robert L. Poczik worked an additional ten years for a research and evaluation firm in Manhattan with a primary focus on the improvement of child welfare programs, including foster care; and*

WHEREAS, *upon retirement Robert L. Poczik and his wife Ellen moved back to Clarence to live in Ellen's childhood home in Harris Hill; and*

WHEREAS, **Robert L. Poczik** is an avid reader with long-standing membership, and is the current Vice President, of the Clarence Book Review Club, is an active member of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, serving both as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and is the Chairman of the Parish Council, and has been active in the Clarence Senior Center and sits on its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, **Robert L. Poczik** is not only known as a world traveler, but also for his speaking engagements over the past ten years across Western New York that involve a wide range of educational, travel, literary, and cultural topics, and his participation as a regular contributor to the “My View” feature of the Buffalo News, with forty such columns having been published in the paper; and

WHEREAS, **Robert L. Poczik**, in light of his accomplishments, will be honored on February 25, 2016 as the Clarence Chamber of Commerce’s 2016 Lifetime Achiever of the Year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to recognize and acknowledge

Robert L. Poczik

for all of his accomplishments and for being named the Clarence Chamber of Commerce’s 2016 Lifetime Achiever of the Year.

Edward A. Rath, III
Erie County Legislator, 6th District

Karen M. McCarthy
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature